



# EPA Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot

*Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, AZ*

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5105)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

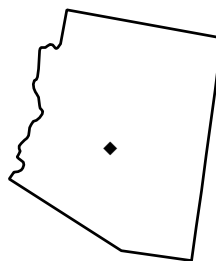
EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, and safely clean up brownfields to promote their sustainable reuse. Brownfields are abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years, with additional funding provided for greenspace) to test assessment models and facilitate coordinated assessment and cleanup efforts at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels; and job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years) to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, cleanup revolving loan fund program (each funded up to \$1,000,000 over five years) to provide financial assistance for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

## BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community for a Brownfields Assessment Pilot. The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community was created by Executive Order on June 14, 1879, by President Rutherford B. Hayes. The community (6,000 tribal members) is located in Maricopa County near Phoenix and covers 52,600 acres, comprised mostly of agricultural lands.

The targeted site is an abandoned municipal landfill that for decades received waste from the Phoenix metropolitan area. The landfill, which is on tribal land that borders the Salt River, has hindered community redevelopment efforts for the last 20 years. This lack of development contrasts sharply with economic growth in the immediately adjacent Phoenix metropolitan area, which has expanded at nearly three times the national rate during the same period. Nearly 42 percent of the Pima-Maricopa Indian Community's residents live below the poverty level and unemployment is about 20 percent among the two sovereign tribes.

## PILOT SNAPSHOT



*Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Arizona*

**Date of Announcement:**  
April 2001

**Amount:** \$200,000

**Profile:** The Pilot will be the first step in a process to turn an abandoned landfill into a site suitable for active and productive use in the economically depressed Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

### Contacts:

Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Cultural & Environmental Services (480) 850-8045	Regional Brownfields Team U.S. EPA - Region 9 (415) 744-2237
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Visit the EPA Region 9 Brownfields web site at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/brown/index.html>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:

<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

## OBJECTIVES

The community holds high standards for sustainable development. It seeks to revitalize the landfill area to create jobs and redevelopment opportunities within the community. The Pilot will develop plans to ensure that redevelopment is consistent with the community's vision of sustainable development, assess the landfill, and develop a reuse strategy.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Preparing plans for health and safety, quality assurance, community outreach, and environmental justice;
- Performing environmental site assessment activities;
- Conducting multilingual community outreach to ensure that community values drive the process and community concerns are addressed; and
- Developing a cleanup and reuse strategy that balances economic and community needs.

*The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.*